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Report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Joy Ngozi Ezeilo

Addendum

Consultative meeting on strengthening partnerships with national rapporteurs on trafficking in persons and equivalent mechanisms* **

Summary

On 23 and 24 May 2013, the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, convened a consultation aimed at discussing ways to strengthen partnerships with national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms on trafficking in persons. The present report presents background information on the thematic of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms, a summary of the discussions held and the recommendations made by participants, and some concluding observations. The consultation brought together national rapporteurs and representatives of equivalent mechanisms from 17 countries. The discussion revolved around the main function of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms, including data collection and analysis, monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the impact of anti-trafficking policies, and fostering partnerships and coordination at the national, regional and international levels. The participants unanimously emphasized the importance of the independence of such mechanisms if they are to be effective and stressed that global and regional exchanges were extremely useful. They expressed their interest in the issue and their readiness to continue to engage with each other, with the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, with the United Nations system in general and with other relevant stakeholders, and further suggested that a second meeting be held to deepen the discussion.

* The summary of the present report is circulated in all official languages. The report itself, contained in the annex to the summary, is circulated in the language of submission only.

** The appendix is circulated as received.

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Annex

[English only]

Report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, on the consultative meeting on strengthening partnerships with national rapporteurs on trafficking in persons and equivalent mechanisms (Berlin, 23–24 May 2013)

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I. Context

1. On 23 and 24 May 2013, the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, convened a consultative meeting on strengthening partnerships with national rapporteurs on trafficking in persons and equivalent mechanisms in Berlin to provide an opportunity to share experiences and lessons learned among national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms, and further strengthen the partnership between her mandate and such mechanisms.

2. This consultation, which brought together 40 participants,[1] including national rapporteurs and representatives of equivalent mechanisms from 19 countries from different regions of the world and representatives of relevant United Nations, international and regional organizations, was the first global consultation of national rapporteurs and representatives of equivalent mechanisms aimed at holding an in-depth discussion on possible means of cooperation between such mechanisms.

3. In its resolutions 67/145, 65/190, 63/156, 61/144 and 59/166 on trafficking in women and girls, the General Assembly called on Governments to consider setting up or strengthening a national coordinating mechanism, for example, a national rapporteur or an inter-agency body to encourage the exchange of information and to report on data, root causes, factors and trends in violence against women and in trafficking, especially of women and girls. Moreover, in its Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking (E/2002/68/Add.1), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) recommended that States and, where applicable, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), consider establishing mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the human rights impact of anti-trafficking laws, policies, programmes and interventions.

4. Establishing a national rapporteur or equivalent mechanism is also seen as an important step towards the implementation of data collection and research into and analysis of the trafficking situation in the countries concerned. In the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, research and collecting suitably disaggregated data are identified as key factors, enabling the proper analysis of the nature and extent of trafficking in persons.[2]

5. In the exercise of her mandate, the Special Rapporteur has consistently advocated for the importance of having national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms, which can help in coordinating, monitoring and evaluating anti-trafficking policies. In particular, the analysis and data provided by national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms are instrumental in measuring the effectiveness of the steps taken to prevent human trafficking, prosecute alleged perpetrators and protect victims.

6. The mandate of the Special Rapporteur also includes, among other things, identifying and sharing best practices, proposing adequate responses to challenges and obstacles in order to uphold and protect the human rights of victims, and putting particular emphasis on the identification of concrete areas for international cooperation to tackle the issue of trafficking in persons. In this connection, the Special Rapporteur has emphasized that cooperation and exchange of expertise and good practices among countries would contribute to raising the effectiveness of anti-trafficking efforts.

7. The Special Rapporteur has long maintained that in order to address effectively the serious challenge to humanity posed by the phenomenon of trafficking in persons, better cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination is required. In this regard, she

[1] See the appendix for the list of participants.

[2] General Assembly resolution 64/293, para. 16.

has stressed her conviction that regional and subregional mechanisms "play a key role in providing a response that is both multilateral and sufficiently close to countries' realities and specificities within a certain region" (A/HRC/14/32, para. 2).

8. Concerning the existing regional frameworks and initiatives relating to this topic, directive 2011/36/EU of 5 April 2011 of the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, clearly defines the scope and mandate of national rapporteurs or equivalent mechanisms. Furthermore, article 29 of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings encourages States parties to consider appointing national rapporteurs or other mechanisms to monitor the anti-trafficking activities of State institutions and the implementation of national legislation.

9. In October 2010, the Special Rapporteur convened a consultation in Dakar on the role of regional and subregional mechanisms in international efforts to counter trafficking in persons, especially women and children. The participants of this meeting emphasized that a prerequisite to effective and wider cooperation was effective coordination at the national and regional levels through structures such as focal points, coordinators or rapporteurs. In February 2012, the Special Rapporteur participated in a meeting of the informal network of European Union national rapporteurs or equivalent mechanisms, organized by the European Commission and the European Union Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, at which the participants shared information on their work and activities and held discussions on the challenges of, and good practices for, implementing the existing national referral mechanisms; the advantages of having transnational referral mechanisms; and the issues of victim identification and safe return to prevent retrafficking.

10. As a follow-up to the discussions and initiatives mentioned above and in the framework of her mandate, the Special Rapporteur convened the consultative meeting in Berlin with the objective of promoting the exchange of information on current trends, good practices and lessons learned from the activities of various national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms; considering and discussing possible ways of promoting partnerships and cooperation between national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms from various regions of the world; and providing an opportunity for participants to meet one another and create and enhance networking opportunities between national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms from countries in different regions.

11. The expected outcome of the consultation was a set of recommendations, based on the observations and conclusions of the participants, for fostering cooperation and the sharing of expertise and good practices between national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms from different regions of the world.

II. Introduction

12. The consultation was opened by Otto Lampe, Deputy Director General for United Nations Affairs, Federal Foreign Office, Germany, and the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children. Mr. Lampe underlined the timely nature of the consultation and the long-standing commitment to the fight against human trafficking and the efforts made by Germany in this regard, at both the regional and international levels, including its role in initiating the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, in 2004; its collaboration in the promotion of the Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking; and its active participation in the drafting of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. The Special Rapporteur explained the objectives, structure and modalities of the consultation.

13. The agenda of the consultative meeting was divided into five sessions, covering different aspects of strengthening the role of national rapporteurs on trafficking in persons

and equivalent mechanisms and the potential for cooperation and coordination between them and with other actors.[3]

III. Overview of the discussions held during the consultative meeting

A. The role of national rapporteurs on trafficking in persons and equivalent mechanisms in addressing trafficking in persons within the national institutional anti-trafficking framework: lessons learned, good practices and remaining challenges

14. At this session, presentations were made by national rapporteurs and representatives of equivalent mechanisms from several countries, including Belarus, the Netherlands, Nepal, Nigeria and Sweden on the roles and activities of their institutions.

15. With regard to the role and functions of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms, a number of factors were cited that necessitated enhancing the effectiveness of national monitoring and evaluating mechanisms, such as the inadequate implementation of anti-trafficking legislation, the insidious nature of trafficking and its organization, the constant increase in the scale of trafficking, the lack of complete and objective data and information, the absence of data collection mechanisms in most countries, the inadequacy of national and international counter-trafficking measures and the insufficient funding available for anti-trafficking efforts.

16. It was noted that monitoring and reporting mechanisms were usually less developed and effective than coordinating mechanisms.

17. Although there is no unique model, speakers and participants noted that the key features of national rapporteur mechanisms should be independence and objectivity, being accessible to everyone and the ability to monitor all institutions and maintain a constant exchange with civil society and other relevant stakeholders. It was recommended that Member States should appoint such independent monitoring mechanisms to collect and analyse reliable data on trafficking in persons, monitor and evaluate national anti-trafficking responses and legislation, identify gaps and make recommendations for improving anti-trafficking efforts. It was noted that national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms should have a clear legally-defined mandate to be able to conduct their activities in an independent and objective manner.

18 During the discussion, questions were raised as to what the core of the mandate of national rapporteurs should be and what the key advantages of being independent were. A variety of models of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms emerged and their possible advantages and disadvantages were discussed. It was proposed that the real functioning of national rapporteurs be looked at and existing advantages built upon, without losing sight of the objectives of having such mechanisms. A proposal was made to develop minimum standards on the roles and functions of the mechanisms and formulate a clear definition of the role and responsibilities of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms in international law. Moreover, it was emphasized by some participants that the independence of national rapporteurs enabled them to evaluate objectively the implementation of anti-human trafficking legislation, strategies and activities, point out existing drawbacks and make comprehensive legal and policy recommendations. Their independence also increased the authority of, and gave credibility to, their activities.

[3] The agenda of the meeting is available from www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Trafficking/Consultation/2013/Agenda-Berlin-meeting_of_NREMs.pdf.

19. It was also stressed that there was a need for a common framework for monitoring anti-trafficking actions, which required an agreement or consensus on the following questions:

- What, when and how to collect and evaluate data?
- Should there be specific guidelines for national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms on how to operate?
- What would be the expected impact of the monitoring and reporting functions of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms?
- What would be the objectives of recommendations made by national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms?

20. The participants also highlighted the indirect role of monitoring and reporting mechanisms in raising public awareness, contributing to the prevention of trafficking and in policymaking. In source countries, trafficking was still seen by many potential victims as a means of seeking socioeconomic opportunity owing to increased demand for cheap labour in recipient countries and increasing poverty in source countries. It was recommended that advocacy be stepped up on preventing discrimination against women, which cannot be addressed merely by enacting laws.

B. Collection and analysis of information and data on trafficking in persons

21. At this session, representatives of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms from Argentina and Myanmar made presentations on the activities of the relevant national actors concerning the collection and analysis of information and data on trafficking in persons.

22. The absence of reliable data and data collection mechanisms was cited as one of the most pressing issues faced by national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms. In some countries, the police were the primary source of information. In this regard, participants discussed whether law enforcement agencies should be the only source of information. It was suggested that civil society organizations involved in the fight against trafficking and in victim assistance could also be an important source of information.

23. The representative of Argentina reported that her Government had created an integrated system of information relating to trafficking in persons, which included data on judicial cases, actions taken by the police, victims who had been rescued, perpetrators who had been identified and objects that had been seized. She noted that such a database allowed for, among other things, the identification of trends and patterns in trafficking, trafficking routes and locations and the sectors in which human trafficking mostly occurred.

24. In the case of Myanmar, a new software programme was installed in 2010, with the support of the United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking, into which the data on trafficking cases covering the period from January 2006 to the present had been entered. The database includes information such as the number of cases, the forms, patterns and routes of trafficking, the origins of the victims and the perpetrators and the modus operandi of the traffickers. The experience of Sweden was also mentioned, where the fact that the National Police Board had been appointed to act as the national rapporteur offered certain advantages in terms of data gathering by allowing the national rapporteur to monitor the situation of human trafficking closely, through regular updates from the national and regional police, the prosecution authorities and other actors.

25. Data collection and analysis and the dissemination of information are crucial for identifying victims and the modus operandi of traffickers. It was suggested that countries should use all possible sources of data and information. Some participants emphasized that

the research into disaggregated data on human trafficking had helped in obtaining a useful insight into the factors that reinforced vulnerability to human trafficking.

C. Monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the implementation of anti-trafficking legislation and policies

26. Presentations were made by national rapporteurs and representatives of equivalent mechanisms from several countries, including Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Finland and the United States of America, as well as by the European Union Anti-Trafficking Coordinator.

27. There was general agreement among participants that monitoring, evaluating and reporting should be the main functions of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms. Some participants noted that the monitoring function should not focus solely on anti-trafficking legislation and prosecution, but should also evaluate the effectiveness of prevention measures and the impact of regional and international anti-trafficking efforts. It should also assess the impact and adequacy of legal and policy measures on the human rights of victims, namely on their protection and on assistance, rehabilitation, reintegration and compensation for them. The participants also considered it important to evaluate the implementation of anti-human trafficking actions from a gender perspective.

28. Access to relevant information was cited as one of the most important enabling factors for monitoring and evaluating anti-trafficking actions and issuing evidence-based reports and recommendations. In this regard, it was suggested that national rapporteurs should be given a legal mandate to receive all the information they needed from the authorities, including classified information, and also from NGOs involved in activities against trafficking.

29. As the phenomenon of trafficking in persons is evolving rapidly, it was suggested that anti-trafficking legislation should be regularly assessed. For countries that have not established a national rapporteur or equivalent mechanism, or would not be able to establish one, it was suggested that they look at other institutions, such as national human rights institutions, which might be able carry out monitoring functions in relation to trafficking.

30. It was also argued that the national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms should not report only on trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation, as is the case in many countries, but should also cover forced marriage, forced labour and trafficking of people for the removal of organs. It was recommended that, in order to carry out their monitoring, evaluating and reporting functions effectively, national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms should be given full access to all relevant information, materials and data, including police investigations, statements of victims and witnesses and the findings of studies and data collection activities undertaken by other relevant institutions.

31. The importance of independent reporting has been emphasized as an essential element of the work of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms and of the regional monitoring mechanisms. In this context, it was suggested that reporting undertaken by national rapporteurs and equivalent and regional mechanisms should be complementary and consistent, and that skills and expertise in reporting should be shared and further developed.

D. Coordinating anti-trafficking responses and cooperation of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms with State and non-State actors, including civil society and the business community

32. During this session, presentations were made by the representatives of relevant anti-trafficking coordinating bodies from Croatia, Germany, Israel and Uzbekistan.

33. It was emphasized that anti-trafficking coordinating mechanisms constituted a solid basis for building on and implementing anti-trafficking policies. It was noted that coordination of anti-trafficking responses was imperative and that Governments placed a high priority on the establishment of coordinating mechanisms which were more widespread than monitoring mechanisms. It was recommended that coordination mechanisms be strong and accessible to non-State actors, including civil society organizations.

34. In practice, in many countries the coordination and monitoring roles are assigned to the same institution or authority. In this regard, participants noted that national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms should not be tasked with coordinating the implementation of anti-trafficking measures. Concern was expressed that when national coordinating mechanisms played the role of national rapporteurs, the independence of their monitoring and evaluating functions might be jeopardized. Another argument in favour of separating the coordinating and monitoring functions was that it would increase the effectiveness of the monitoring function. However, it was also noted that, especially in the case of small countries, it would be helpful if independent national coordinators also acted as an equivalent rapporteur mechanism. This was mainly because they were usually in a close working relationship at operational level with all the relevant actors working on the fight against trafficking, which made it easy for national coordinators to gather information about existing problems and the progress made. It was suggested, therefore, that in such cases national coordinators should be equipped with the relevant legal provisions, which would allow them to carry out both the monitoring and reporting functions.

35. It was noted by several participants that coordination mechanisms should be more neutral and able to adopt a multidisciplinary approach to human trafficking, for instance to avoid addressing issues related to trafficking by focusing exclusively on migration control policies when dealing with cases of trafficking.

36. With regard to cooperation with non-State actors, it was noted that civil society organizations could be an important source of data and information, particularly through exchanging hands-on knowledge and information on the complexity of trafficking situations and anti-trafficking efforts. The participants shared their experiences of cooperating with civil society organizations. In this context, different forms of State cooperation with civil society actors were mentioned, such as cooperation through a coalition of NGOs working in this field; establishing more formal cooperation agreements with civil society organizations; collaborating with, and providing State funding to, NGOs working on awareness-raising, training, victim rehabilitation and reintegration; setting up discussion forums to discuss issues relating to human trafficking with all the relevant actors, including civil society, to cross-check information and to deepen understanding of the current trends and manifestations of trafficking; and involving NGOs in the victim assistance and identification efforts of the relevant State bodies.

37. It was recommended that Governments should work more closely with civil society organizations involved in combating trafficking and in protection and assistance for victims, for instance through a coalition of NGOs following the same modalities as the existing system of cooperation. Given the low level of engagement with the business community, the participants recommended further exploration of the opportunities for engagement and collaboration with the business community, which could be an important partner in policy implementation and coordination. In this context, the Special Rapporteur informed the participants about her work, including her report on the issue of trafficking in global supply chains. The Special Rapporteur also suggested that national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms should enhance their cooperation with research institutes and scholars, given the importance of independent research and studies.

E. Fostering cooperation between national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms around the globe and partnerships and cooperation with international and regional organizations and mechanisms

38. During the session, presentations were made by the representatives of Belgium, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the President of the Council of Europe Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, the representative of the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States and the Special Representative and Coordinator for Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

39. The importance of promoting and strengthening cooperation between global, regional and national actors in establishing and consolidating national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms was highlighted by many participants. In particular, it was recommended that national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms should exchange information and expertise and assist each other on a regular basis in discussing possible solutions to remaining challenges at the national level. In this context, the representatives made a number of suggestions, such as establishing cooperation agreements and exchanging visits between national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms in different countries; organizing meetings through informal regional or global networks; and collaborating with other national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms and regional and international organizations through contributing to their reports and activities. Furthermore, capacity-building was cited as one of the most important areas in which the national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms could cooperate. The informal network set up in 2009 by the European Union, which meets twice a year and has developed its own cooperation strategy, was considered by the participants as a useful model that could be replicated in other regions.

40. The participants stated that, despite differing legal systems and institutional structures at the national level, there was a similarity of experience among the national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms. They found global and regional exchanges extremely useful and expressed their readiness to work with the mandate of the Special Rapporteur to continue such collaboration. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime also expressed its interest in being a partner in the organization of such meetings.

41. Participants also discussed the possibility of holding the second consultative meeting of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms either in Africa or Latin America. It was recommended that future consultative meetings address specific issues of common interest, for example how national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms and international and regional organizations could work together on improving reporting and data collection, or the implementation of the provision on the non-punishment of victims of trafficking for offences committed in the course of their trafficking.

42. In her closing remarks, the Special Rapporteur emphasized the usefulness and importance of such gatherings. While noting the existing political will to continue and enhance the cooperation between national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms and their regional and international mechanisms, she recommended that the next meeting should focus on a specific issue relating to the key activities of national rapporteurs and equivalent mechanisms.

Appendix

List of participants in the consultative meeting on strengthening partnerships with national rapporteurs on trafficking in persons and equivalent mechanisms

1. Representatives of Member States

Ms. Paula Honisch, National Director of Coordination and Liaison with Government Ministries, Coordinator of Inter-Ministerial Group on Anti-trafficking, Ministry of Security, Argentina

Mr. Cristian M. Encinas, Coordinator of Legal Team, National Program for Rescue and Support of Victims Trafficking, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, Argentina

Mr. Javad Shikhaliyev, Head of Department on Combating Human Trafficking, Ministry of Interior, Azerbaijan

Mr. Elchin Orujov, Officer, Department on Combating Human Trafficking, Ministry of Interior, Azerbaijan

Ms. Olga Stankevich, Head of Division on Cooperation with International Organizations, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Belarus

Ms. Patricia Le Cocq, Legal advisor, Anti-trafficking Unit, Centre for Equal Opportunities and Opposition to Racism, Belgium

Ms. Antoaneta Vassileva, Secretary General, National Commission for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Bulgaria

Mr. Branko Sočanac, National Coordinator for elimination of trafficking in persons, Director of the Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, Croatia

Ms. Venla Roth, Senior officer, Office of the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings/Ombudsman for Minorities, Finland

Mr. Otto Lampe, Deputy Director General for UN Affairs, Federal Foreign Office, Germany

Mr. Arz von Straussenburg, Chief, Human Rights Division, Directorate-General for the United Nations and Global Issues, Federal Foreign Office, Germany

Mr. Stephan Lanzinger, Referent/Desk Officer, Human Rights Division, Directorate-General for the United Nations and Global Issues, Federal Foreign Office, Germany

Mr. Sven Berger, Head of the Division on Serious and Organized Crime; Narcotics-related Crime, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Germany

Ms. Birgit Schweikert, Head of Division for Protection of Women from Violence, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Manager of the Federal Working Group on Trafficking in Persons, Germany

Ms. Nicole Zündorf-Hinte, Advisor, Division for Protection of Women from Violence, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens Women and Youth, Germany

Mr. Jürgen Thomas, Referent/Desk Officer, Division for OECD, Council of Europe and OSCE, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Germany

Ms. Julie Olivier, Research assistant, Office of Frank Heinrich, Member of the German Federal Parliament, Germany

Ms. Tamar Parush, Coordinator on human trafficking issues, State Attorney's Office, Israel

Ms. Stabina Lasma, Senior Desk Officer, Sectoral Policy Department, Ministry of the Interior, Latvia

Mr. Kiro Todorovski, National Rapporteur on combating trafficking in human beings and illegal migration, Ministry of Interior, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Mr. Aung Htay Myint, Deputy Director, Department against Transnational Crime, Myanmar Police Force, Myanmar

Ms. Manju Khatiwada, Senior Human Rights Officer, Office of the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Women and Children, Nepal

Ms. Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, Dutch National Rapporteur on trafficking in human beings and sexual violence against children, the Netherlands

Ms. Beatrice Jedy-Agba , Executive Secretary, National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons and Other Related Matters, Nigeria

Ms. Kajsa Wahlberg, National Rapporteur on trafficking in human beings, Sweden

Mr. Boris Mesaric, Head of Office, Swiss Coordination Unit against the Trafficking of Persons and Smuggling of Migrants, Switzerland

Mr. Luis CdeBaca, Ambassador-at-Large, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking In Persons, Department of State, the United States of America

Ms. Laura Svat Rundlet, Senior Coordinator for Public Engagement, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Department of State, the United States of America

Ms. Jacqueline Dadswell, Legal Adviser, Embassy of the United States of America in Berlin

Mr. Said Rustamov, Head of Department for Cooperation with USA and American Countries, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan (a member organization of the National Inter-Agency Anti-trafficking Commission of the Republic of Uzbekistan)

2. United Nations, international and regional organizations

Mr. Nicolas Le Coz, President, Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETTA), Council of Europe

Mr. Olatunde OLAYEMI, Coordinator, Counter-Trafficking in Persons Unit, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Ms. Myria Vassiliadou, EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator, European Commission

Ms. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, (OSCE)

Ms. Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children

Mr. Ilias Chatzis, Chief, Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs & Crime (UNODC)

Ms. Rahel Gershuni, Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer, Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs & Crime (UNODC)

Ms. Federica Donati, Coordinator, Equality, Non-discrimination and Participation Unit, Special Procedures Branch, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Mr. Purevdorj Vaanchig, Human rights officer, Equality, Non-discrimination and Participation Unit, Special Procedures Branch, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)